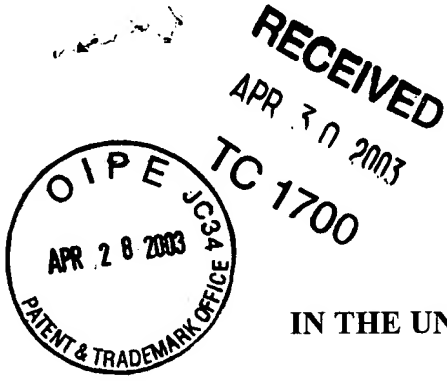


AF 11773



Corres. and Mail
BOX AF

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP 1773
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#17

In re application of

Docket No: Q58984

Noriyuki NAKAOKA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/530,694

Group Art Unit: 1773

Confirmation No.: 3536

Examiner: BERNATZ, KEVIN M

Filed: May 04, 2000

For: SEMI-HARD MAGNETIC MATERIAL, METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME, AND
MAGNETIC MARKER USING SAME

**PAPER CORRECTING AMENDMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 FILED APRIL 21, 2003**

ATTN: BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

REMARKS

At page 7 of the above AMENDMENT, the first full paragraph on page 7 should read as follows:

Correction indicated by striking and underscoring.

Assuming that the Examiner agrees that the above feature of a layer "A" are correctly defined in the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is clearly distinguished from the prior art relied upon in light of Applicants previous arguments. Most especially, Applicant believe that this is the case because Ni and Cu readily dissolve in each